Queen Anne's County

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Housing and Community Services

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January 19, 2022

The Honorable Maggie E. McIntosh Chair, Appropriations Committee Maryland House of Delegates 121 Taylor House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for House Bill 39, Report on the Public or Private Conversion of State Property to Affordable Housing

Dear Chair McIntosh and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

We are writing to express our support for House Bill 39 entitled: Report on the Public or Private Conversion of State Property to Affordable Housing.

The Queen Anne's County Division of Housing and Community Services has been working diligently to increase affordable housing in Queen Anne's County. One of the strategies to do that identified during our recent Housing Study was to incentivize new development by providing government owned property that is not being used for government operations. Land costs are a major barrier in creating affordable housing. By providing government owned property for future housing development, land cost concerns could be removed or minimized. Decreasing such expenses could help in closing the financial gap for many of our workforce members looking to live in Queen Anne's County.

We fully support HB 39 to help the development of affordable housing in Queen Anne's County and across the State of Maryland. We would be happy to provide you a copy of our plan or answers any questions if you would like.

Michael R. Clark

Chief of Housing & Family Services

cc: The Honorable Pamela E. Queen, Delegate District 14
The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr., Senator District 36
The Honorable Steven J. Arentz, Delegate District 36
The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist, Delegate District 36
The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs, Delegate District 36

Mr. Todd R. Mohn, County Administrator, Queen Anne's County, Maryland

